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**House of Representatives
State of Tennessee**

President
National Black Caucus of State Legislators

**MEMBER of
COMMITTEES**

Finance, Ways and Means
Transportation
Sub of Finance, Ways and Means

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications
Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As State Representative of the 15th House district in Tennessee, I have come to know Comcast as a service provider and a partner in the community, and with that in mind I'm writing you this letter to voice my support for its proposed transaction with Time Warner Cable.

In my time as a public servant I have witnessed Comcast's commitment to education and investment in our communities. The situation now, with the proposed transaction, reminds me of the 2010 union of Comcast and NBCUniversal, for which I also voiced my support. In 2010, I supplied a letter to the FCC in which I expressed my appreciation for how Comcast involves itself as members of the Knoxville community. I spoke of Comcast's involvement with many local organizations, such as the Knoxville County Public Library Summer Reading Club, Urban League, and United Way of Greater Knoxville. In 2010, I noted that Comcast has been dedicated to expanding broadband across many parts of our state, so that small businesses could have the access they need to stay connected, keep up with larger competitors, create jobs, and drive innovation.

Today, in 2014, I stand by my assertions. Comcast has consistently committed itself to making broadband more accessible to all, including low-income families. After the NBCUniversal transaction went through, Comcast went forward with its groundbreaking Internet Essentials program, which has worked over the last three years to bring affordable Internet access to our poorest households and decrease the digital divide. The program has been a massive success; I understand that 1.4 million Americans have been connected to the Internet, and over 1.6 million Americans have been brought up to speed with Comcast's free digital literacy training. The program began as a voluntary, three-year venture, but after experiencing success that exceeded expectation, Comcast recently announced that it would extend Internet Essentials indefinitely, solidifying its long-term commitment to decreasing the gap in digital literacy and making sure every child has an equal opportunity at success in the 21st century.

Now, again, we face another exciting opportunity for Comcast to expand its reach and substantiate its resources by joining with Time Warner Cable. As someone who has witnessed Comcast's commitment to fulfill (and exceed) promises for several years now, I can't tell you how excited I am for the future. Comcast supports employment opportunities- responsible for just under 3,000 jobs in Tennessee- and, more importantly in today's information age, provides affordable access to the Internet and computers, both of which are essential tools for success in today's world. The innovative work that Comcast is doing will continue to aid job searches, and give students the foundation they need to maximize their education and grow into the leaders of tomorrow. I am excited that Comcast will extend Internet Essentials and this transaction will extend the program to many other communities across the nation as well.

I know from personal experience that Comcast lives up to and goes beyond its commitments, and I know it will continue to do so in the future. I strongly support the Time Warner and Comcast transaction, and I hope you will, too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Armstrong".

Representative Joe Armstrong
15th District, Knox County